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Allen Dulles Lauds Braden as CIA Aide

Examiner, Capital Bureau

SACRAMENTO, March 19.

—Allen W. Dulles, former director of the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency, offered words of praise Tuesday for Thomas W. Braden, embattled president of the State Board of Education.

So did Governor Edmund G. Brown.

At the same time, The Examiner learned that only five members participated in a widely publicized "caucus of American Legion leaders" in Los Angeles where a resolution was adopted demanding that Braden resign now, without waiting for the Senate Rules Committee to act on his reappointment Thursday.

CALLED DISSIDENTS

The five were identified as dissidents who previously had sponsored resolutions calling for the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren and for the U. S. to get out of the U. N. or the U. N. to get out of the U. S.

NO OFFICIAL STAND

They also had sponsored an advertisement last fall urging the election of Superintendent of Public Instruction Max Rafferty, with whom Braden has differed on textbook and policy matters.

Legion sources said no

State, county or district commanders have taken a position on the Braden controversy.

Opponents claim they have enough votes to block Braden's reappointment on the Senate floor if the committee, headed by Majority Leader Hugh Burns, acts favorably.

Dulles wrote a "Dear Tom" letter to lay at rest "shocking rumors" about Braden's work as an assistant director of the C. I. A.

CIA SERVICE LAUDED

"... Your services with the agency were of the highest value and importance. ... It was to my great regret... when you, of your own volition for financial reasons, decided you would no longer serve with us."

Braden, father of seven, now publishes the Oceanside Blade-Tribune.

The Governor told his press conference:

"It would be tragic to California if the chairman of the Board of Education, who has done so much, would not be confirmed by the Senate."

OVER-EMPHASIS

He said differences between the 45 year old publisher and the Superintendent of Public Instruction have been over-emphasized. And he cited the board's achievements under

Braden during the last four years in higher teacher training standards and other areas of public education.

What if Braden's reappointment is not confirmed?

"I refuse to consider the alternative," Brown said. "He is doing a magnificent job."